

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
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R 190958Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5353
INFO AMEMBASSY DOHA
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IR, TC
SUBJ: UAE-IRANIAN PROTOCOL ON COOPERATION

REF: ABU DHABI 3336

1. AT CONCLUSION OF IRANIAN MINECON AND FINANCE HUSHANG ANSARI'S WEEK LONG VISIT TO UAE ON DECEMBER 17, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT UAEG AND IRAN HAD SIGNED THE PREVIOUS DAY A PROTOCOL FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMY, FINANCE AND CULTURE. ANSARI SIGNED ON BEHALF OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND FONMIN SUWAIDI ON BEHALF OF THE UAE.

2. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE PROTOCOL IS DESIGNED TO FACILITATE TRANSFER OF PRIVATE CAPITAL BY GIVING MUTUAL GUARANTEES FOR PRIVATE INVESTMENTS BY NATIONALS OF TIEHER COUNTRY AND TO GIVE PREFERENTIAL ENTRY TO PRODUCTS FROM EITHER COUNTRY. IT
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IS EXPECTED THAT REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH COUNTRIES WILL MEET PERIODICALLY TO ASSURE THAT THE SPIRIT OF THE PROTOCOL IS BEING IMPLEMENTED AND TO REVIEW MATTERS OF BILATERAL INTEREST IN THESE FIELDS.
IT IS THE FIRST AGREEMENT OF ITS KIND BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

3. ALTHOUGH APPARENTLY MORE COSMETIC THAN SUBSTANTIVE, THE PROTOCOL PROVIDES THE UAE WITH ANOTHER PEG TO EXPAND ITS BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH IRAN, WITH WHOM UAE LEADERSHIP WANTS TO HAVE BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP. FOR IRAN, IT WILL SERVE AS ANOTHER MEANS TO ASSURE CONTINUED UAE ORIENTATION TOWARD IRAN ON BROAD NUMBER OF PERSIAN GULF MATTERS, AND REFLECTS THE RECENT AND INTENSE IRANIAN COURTING OF UAE WHICH HAS INCLUDED NOT ONLY KHALATBARI AND ANSARI VISIT TO UAE BUT VISITS OF SHAIKH SULTAN BIN ZAYID (ZAYID'S SECOND SON AND COMMANDER OF WESTERN SECTOR, UDF) AND SHAIKH AHMAD BIN RASHID AL-MAKTOUM (COMMANDER OF THE CENTRAL MILITARY REGION, UDF) TO IRAN AS GUESTS OF THE IRANIAN ARMED FORCES.
DICKMAN

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